

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

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Volume 29, Number 2

Transuranic (TRU) Waste Pads Volume XIII Temporary Authorization Request (Current permit expires 2/14/2026)

The Savannah River Site (SRS) is requesting a Temporary Authorization (TA) to allow loaded and closed transuranic (TRU) shipments to be staged outside of regulated TRU Pads for less than seven days to prepare for shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

SRS TRU waste is stored on permitted storage pads and managed and shipped as mixed waste. A typical TRU waste shipment preparation includes one day for loading and part of the next for transport vehicle inspections before these vehicles are escorted out of the State. Currently when shipping waste, SRS has regulatory approval to stage containers off the permitted pad for up to one shift. However, the departure of shipments may be delayed due to logistical issues. These delays are usually limited to a few days. As preparations to restart shipments begin, SRS is requesting concurrence for temporary authorization, to allow staging of TRU shipment containers outside of the permitted unit up to seven days to accommodate unanticipated delays during shipments.

All of the shipping containers used for the transport of TRU waste to WIPP are extremely robust in construction and are designed to withstand even serious potential accidents during transport, meeting Department of Transportation (DOT) Type B transportation and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) design, fabrication, operations and maintenance requirements. Consequently, these transport casks provide protection of the health and safety of personnel and the environment while the waste is staged outside the permitted facility.

SRS intends to submit a permit application revision to the Site's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit for the TRU Pads (Volume XIII) to incorporate this change.

Written comments may be sent to SCDHEC. For additional information, contact Janet Griffin, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, Savannah River Site, 730-1B, Aiken, SC 29808. Please send your comments to S. L. French, Director, Division of Waste Management, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201-1708.

For additional information, contact: Janet Griffin, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions

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For more information on this or other environmental and compliance activities at SRS, please contact:

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